

Occupational Safety and Health Admin., Labor

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(e) An occupational safety and health program for public employees to be completed by no later than June 30, 1974.

(f) A program for the coverage of agriculture workers to be completed no later than June 30, 1973.

(g) An approved merit system covering employees implementing the plan to be effective 90 days following approval of the plan.

(h) A revised compliance manual to be completed within 6 months following approval of the plan.

§ 1952.92 Completion of developmental steps and certification.

(a) In accordance with §1952.91(a) legislative amendments were introduced into the 1973 South Carolina General Assembly and were enacted effective June 12, 1973. The amendments have been supplemented by State commitments to:

(1) Take action on all employee discrimination complaints within 90 days, and

(2) Limit the duration of temporary variances to a maximum of two years, inclusive of any renewals.

(b) In accordance with §1952.91(b) the South Carolina occupational safety and health standards, identical to Federal standards (through December 3, 1974), have been promulgated and were approved by the Assistant Regional Director for Occupational Safety and Health effective April 10, 1975 (40 FR 16257).

(c) In accordance with §1952.91(d) a voluntary compliance program, to be known as the Taxpayers' Assistant Program, has been developed.

(d) In accordance with §1952.91(f) coverage of agricultural workers began on July 1, 1973, and was initiated directly by the South Carolina Department of Labor. (The State plan has been amended to delete the proposal to delegate such responsibility to the State Department of Agriculture.)

(e) In accordance with §1952.91(g) the State plan has been amended to show extensions of merit system coverage to the South Carolina Department of Labor, Division of Occupational Safety and Health. Agreement with the Department of Health and Environmental Control requires that all health per-

sonnel cooperating in the State occupational safety and health program be likewise covered by the State merit system.

(f) In accordance with the requirements of §1952.10 the South Carolina Safety and Health Poster for private and public employees was approved by the Assistant Secretary on February 19, 1976.

(g) In accordance with §1952.91(c) development of a management information system designed to provide the data required by the Assistant Secretary and information necessary for internal management of resources and evaluation of State program performance has been completed.

(h) The State plan has been amended to include the details of a public employee program. State and local government employees will be afforded protection identical to that of employees in the private sector.

(i) The South Carolina plan has been amended to include an expanded radiation health effort. The Division of Radiological Health, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, under contract to the South Carolina Department of Labor will make inspections to provide coverage of radiation hazards not subject to regulation under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954.

(j) In accordance with plan commitments, South Carolina regulations for enforcement of standards and review of contested cases, Article IV, were revised and repromulgated on June 5, 1975. Further amendment to section 4.00K (September 26, 1975) and a January 15, 1976, letter of supplemental assurances from Commissioner Edgar L. McGowan are considered integral parts of the approved South Carolina review procedures. On March 11, 1976, the State of South Carolina promulgated the necessary changes to Article IV to fulfill the commitments contained in their January 15, 1976, letter of supplemental assurances.

(k) The State plan has been amended to include an Affirmative Action Plan in which the State outlines its policy of equal employment opportunity.

(l) In accordance with §1952.91(h) the State has developed and amended a Compliance Manual which defines the

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procedures and guidelines to be used by the South Carolina compliance and consultation staff in carrying out the goals of the program.

(m) In accordance with §1902.34 of this chapter, the South Carolina occupational safety and health plan was certified, effective August 3, 1976, as having completed all developmental steps specified in the plan as approved on November 30, 1972, on or before December 31, 1975.

§ 1952.93 Compliance staffing benchmarks.

Under the terms of the 1978 Court Order in *AFL-CIO v. Marshall* compliance staffing levels (benchmarks) necessary for a “fully effective” enforcement program were required to be established for each State operating an approved State plan. In September 1984 South Carolina, in conjunction with OSHA, completed a reassessment of the levels initially established in 1980 and proposed revised compliance staffing benchmarks of 17 safety and 12 health compliance officers. After opportunity for public comment and service on the AFL-CIO, the Assistant Secretary approved these revised staffing requirements on January 17, 1986.

§ 1952.94 Final approval determination.

(a) In accordance with section 18(e) of the Act and procedures in 29 CFR part 1902, and after determination that the State met the “fully effective” compliance staffing benchmarks as revised in 1984 in response to a Court Order in *AFL-CIO v. Marshall* (CA 74-406), and was satisfactorily providing reports to OSHA through participation in the Federal-State Integrated Management Information System, the Assistant Secretary evaluated actual operations under the South Carolina State plan for a period of at least one year following certification of completion of developmental steps (41 FR 32424). Based on the 18(e) Evaluation Report for the period of December 1, 1985, through January 31, 1987, and after opportunity for public comment, the Assistant Secretary determined that in operation the State of South Carolina’s occupational safety and health program is at least as effective as the Fed-

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eral program in providing safe and healthful employment and places of employment and meets the criteria for final State plan approval in section 18(e) of the Act and implementing regulations at 29 CFR part 1902. Accordingly, the South Carolina plan was granted final approval and concurrent Federal enforcement authority was relinquished under section 18(e) of the Act effective December 15, 1987.

(b) Except as otherwise noted, the plan which has received final approval covers all activities of employers and all places of employment in South Carolina. The plan does not cover private sector maritime employment; military bases; Federal government employers and employees; the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), including USPS employees, and contract employees and contractor-operated facilities engaged in USPS mail operations; private sector employment at Area D of the Savannah River Site (power generation and transmission facilities operated by South Carolina Electric and Gas) and at the Three Rivers Solid Waste Authority; the enforcement of the field sanitation standard, 29 CFR 1928.110, and the temporary labor camps standard, 29 CFR 1910.142, with respect to any agricultural establishment where employees are engaged in “agricultural employment” within the meaning of the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, 29 U.S.C. 1802(3), regardless of the number of employees, including employees engaged in hand packing of produce into containers, whether done on the ground, on a moving machine, or in a temporary packing shed, except that South Carolina retains enforcement responsibility over agricultural temporary labor camps for employees engaged in egg, poultry, or red meat production, or the post-harvest processing of agricultural or horticultural commodities.

(c) South Carolina is required to maintain a State program which is at least as effective as operations under the Federal program; to submit plan supplements in accordance with 29 CFR part 1953; to allocate sufficient safety and health enforcement staff to meet the benchmarks for State staffing established by the U.S. Department of